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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A

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COUNTRY Greece

DATE:

SUBJECT Views of Spyros Markezinis

INFO. 26 August 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

1. On 26 August Spyros Markezinis stated that the government crisis was the result of the tactics of the leader of the Populist Party, Constantine Tsaldaris, who for the past three months has been trying to compel his colleagues in the government, who were leaders of other parties, to withdraw. Tsaldaris was attempting to form a narrower government under his own presidency, in order to exploit for party purposes the granting of aid by America and the expected arrival of American troops.
2. Markezinis charges the leaders of the EPE with falling into Tsaldaris' trap. By their resignation they gave Tsaldaris the opportunity to try the second part of his scheme, namely the formation of a government under his own presidency.
3. Markezinis expressed his opinion that probably the power of the King should be increased so that he would not regard himself so bound down by constitutional rules, when such a situation arises. He expressed this opinion immediately after a meeting with General Alexander Papagos, although it is now known whether his conversation with him had any relation to this opinion.

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Comment: General Papagos was mentioned as one of the candidates for the office of Prime Minister in a coalition Government.)

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐  
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